

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM: James H. McDonald

Director of Logistics

SUBJECT: GSA Furniture Management Reform Program

Same Subj (OL 0-1306)

REFERENCE: Memo for DDA fm DL dtd 21 Mar 80,

1. Action Requested: That the Deputy Director for Administration transmit the attached letter (Attachment B) to the General Services Administration requesting an exemption from GSA's Furniture Management Reform Program.

2. Background: The referent provided information concerning the evaluation of the General Services Administrations's "Furniture Management Reform Program" and its potential adverse impact on this Agency's ability to protect unauthorized or unforeseen disclosure of classified information. It also sought approval to seek an exemption from the Furniture Management Reform Program based on our need to protect classified national security information; i.e., staffing levels, covert facilities, and sources and methods.

Office of Logistics personnel recently attended a meeting at which the Commissioner, Federal Supply Service, GSA provided additional guidance concerning the furniture program (Attachment A). The new guidance furnished by GSA is more comprehensive and restrictive on Agency operations in that it requires the Agency to provide a substantive justification to GSA prior to removing any item of furniture from stock. Further, it empowers GSA to make direct substitution of items from another Government agency's stock to satisfy our requirements.

It appears even more urgent to seek an exemption from the GSA furniture program, if this Agency is to be able to conduct its operations in a manner that avoids public disclosure and potentially lengthy delays pending GSA review of Agency requirements. It is my belief that we can satisfy

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the spirit and intent of the furniture program by permitting cleared GSA personnel to review our internal management practices and procedures. We currently have an analogous policy of annual reviews with GSA in the area of ADPAE acquisition.

Although GSA appears willing to grant CIA exemptions for classified purchases, the mechanics of operating with a classified and an unclassified program appear unworkable. Further, the latest GSA guidance indicates a trend toward total CSA involvement in each agency's operations. It is for these reasons that I believe we should stronuously seek a total exemption from the Furniture Management Reform Program.

The attached letter outlines to GSA a management process that will achieve the spirit and intent of the furniture program. It provides for the establishment of management procedures that will permit CSA to evaluate this Agency's efforts in managing its furniture assets.

3. Accommendation: It is recommended that the Deputy Director for Administration transmit the attached letter (Attachment B) to the General Services Administration requesting an exemption from GSA's Furniture Management Reform Program.

> /s/ James H. McDonald James H. McDonald

Acts

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: GSA Furniture Management Reform Program

1. On 27 March 1980, Messrs. DC/SD and C/PD, attended a meeting called by GSA to provide additional guidance concerning the subject program.

Messrs. Tom Morris and Herb McCarthy, Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner respectively, FRS, GSA both addressed the gathering.

- 2. Mr. Morris stated that the previous guidance, transmitted on 6 March 1980, remains in effect. He is also attempting to determine how GSA may better manage Governmentwide requirements through its Federal Supply Schedule contracts; e.g., typewriters.
- 3. The following statements highlight the guidance provided by GSA:
  - a. Agency Coverage: GSA has provided OMB with a listing of those agencies it believes are covered by the Furniture Program. If an agency believes it should not be included, it should request a waiver from GSA. GSA will in turn seek a ruling from OMB. CIA is included on the list (Attachment 1).
  - b. Property Management Officer (PMO) Program: GSA desires to establish four Task Forces to resolve the following issues:
    - (1) Requisition certification (validation) procedures to be employed by agencies.
    - (2) Inventory Record Keeping identify essential information required by GSA and available from existing agency systems.
    - (3) Requirements and Expense Plan determine most effective formats to acquire necessary management information.

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(4) National Capital Region - establish procedures for management of stored furniture in the National Capital Region.

### c. Operation Validate:

- (1) GSA will reject all requisitions dated after 27 February 1980, unless the requisition falls within one of GSA's published exceptions.
- (2) GSA will establish an agency certification (validation) standard in the FPMR.
- d. Operation Clean Sweep: National Capital Region is excluded from Clean Sweep.

## e. Requirements and Expense Plan:

- (1) Furniture Expense Plan is a prototype for use in other areas of personal property management.
- (2) Management Information System GSA is developing a computer-based program to track each agency's performance against its Expense Plan.
- (3) FY-81 Agency Expense Plan an estimate is acceptable.
- (4) FY-81 Formats GSA will distribute to agencies on or before 1 May 1980. Agencies must respond on or before 1 July 1980.

# f. Federal Property Management Regulations:

- (1) Management Surveys GSA intends to conduct management surveys of each agency's property management procedures and practices.
- (2) FPMR Revision to establish regulatory requirement for an agency PMO and internal agency certification of property requisitions.
- g. Operation Cleaninghouse: GSA has excluded the National Capital Region from Operation Clean Sweep and has provided the following new guidance, some of which

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appears in a GSA TWX dated 11 March 1980 (Attachment 2).

- (1) Agency Inventory each agency is to conduct a "wall-to-wall" inventory of its stored furniture to update the December 1979 inventory previously transmitted to GSA. This updated inventory will form the baseline for the National Capital Region's furniture management program. GSA representatives will participate in the survey.
- (2) Inventory Records each agency will create an inventory record for each item of stored furniture.
- (3) Inventory Reduction GSA will reduce an agency's inventory if there is no justifiable need within some unstated period; e.g., 90 days.
- (4) Removals from Inventory agencies are prohibited from removing items from inventory without prior approval of GSA.
- (5) Item Substitution automatic substitutions will be made by GSA, with notice to the requiring agency, from existing furniture stocks.
- (6) New Furniture no new furniture may be purchased until existing stock is exhausted without GSA's approval.
- (7) Fedstrip National Capital Region will review all Fedstrip requisitions for screening against the furniture inventory.
- 3. Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Paul Agin, Director, National Furniture Center, was queried concerning the feasibility of exempting this Agency from the program. He is of the opinion that any request for a total waiver will be denied.
- 4. <u>Conclusion</u>: GSA's new guidance concerning the National Capital Region is more comprehensive and restrictive on Agency operations. It will require:
  - a. Establishment of Inventory Records for stored furniture;

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- b. Disclosure of possible classified information to justify retention or use of stored furniture; and,
- c. Surrender of Agency responsibility for satisfying its requirements, since GSA will be able to direct substitutions.
- 5. It appears even more urgent to seek an exemption from the GSA/OMB program's coverage, if this Agency is to be able to conduct its operations in a manner that avoids public disclosure.

Chief, Procurement Division, OL

Att

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Civil Aeronautics Board

Commission of Fine Arts

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Farm Credit Admin.

Federal Communications Commission

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Foreign Claims Settlement Comm. STAT

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Overseas Private Investment Corp.

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AGENCIES & COMMISSIONS

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Panama Canal Comm.

Penn. Ave., Develop. Corp.

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.

Postal Rate Comm.

Railroad Retirement Board

Securities & Exchange Commission

Selective Service System

Small Business Admin.

Mr. Tom Leydon Director, Office of Mgmt Serv.

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TREGRAPHIC MESSAGE					
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R. G. FREEMAN, III ADMINISTRATOR	•	
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# Approved For Release 2003/05/23: CIA-RDP83-00957R00-00090008-1 OVERALL REGIONAL CONTACT POINTS FOR THE

# GSA FURNITURE MANAGEMENT REFORM PLAN

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NCR	Peter Boulay	ARA, FSS	472-1701
4	Len Sheppard	ARA, FSS	242-5114
5	Jim Czysz	Staff Ass't. to the Regional Administrator	<b>353-53</b> 95
6	Tom Morton	Supply Division	926-7318
7	Reuben Morgan	ARA, FSS	334-2516
8	John Vogt	ARA, FSS	234-3921
9	Oliver Thurmon	ARA, FSS	556-5743
10	Leroy Roberts	ARA, FSS	396-5291